

May 10, 2003

Tony Grippa, Chairman
Leon Board of County Commissioners
Leon County Courthouse
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Chairman Grippa:

RE: Holiday Schedule - Leon County.

At the April 29th Commission Meeting, this constituent presented to you and your fellow Commissioners a packet of data detailing the Leon County Holiday Schedule which was adopted unanimously on October 8, 2002.

In summary, this data revealed the following holiday schedule for Leon County and sister institutions:

- Leon County - 12 Holidays plus 1 Swing Holiday
- City of Tallahassee - 9 Holidays
- Federal Reserve, Banks, Post Office and Federal Courts - 10 Holidays
- Leon Public Schools, FSU, FAMU, TCC - 10 Holidays

The Leon County Schedule of Holidays is excessive and citizen unfriendly. School children cannot go to Leon Libraries as they are closed on school days. People seeking to pay taxes, register to vote, check on property appraisals, etc. are denied these essential services.

Please read Clerk of the Courts Bob Inzer's letter of August 30, 2002. He offers an independent assessment of the scheduling situation.

If Chief Judge William Gary wants two extra holidays, that's his decision. But the Leon County Commission should not be unduly influenced to follow his approach.

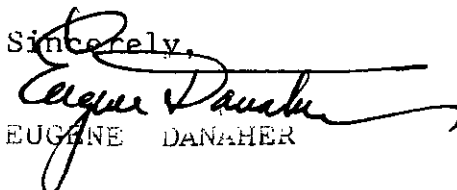
The so-called "Swing Holidays" for "Board employees" are indefensible. Why aren't other County employees eligible? A quick check with some of these other employees reveals they had NO KNOWLEDGE of these extra holidays and they are not happy to learn of this "favortism."

In summary, I urge you to direct an examination of this scheduling quagmire, change back to 10 holidays, and eliminate ALL swing holidays.

Please advise your evaluation of this matter.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


EUGENE DANAHER

Attachments - (2)
C Tallahassee Democrat

EUGENE DANAHER
10263 THOUSAND OAKS CIRCLE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32309
April 18, 2003

Attachment # 7
Page 2 of 3

Vince Long, Assistant County Administrator
Leon County Courthouse
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

RE: Leon County Good Friday "Holiday".

Dear Mr. Long:

Today is Good Friday.

Leon County Offices are CLOSED, including county, circuit appellate, and supreme court offices.

However the overwhelming majority of government and private offices are OPEN. A listing of OPEN offices is as follows:

- State of Florida Offices
- City of Tallahassee
- FSU
- FAMU
- TCC
- Public schools
- Federal Offices, including Federal Courts.
- Post Office
- All bank offices
- Animal Shelter
- Public, private bus regular schedules

As a taxpayer of Leon County, I believe ^{Leon County} is badly "out-of-step" with all other local public and private community office hours for citizens' access to Leon County services, including even the Leon Public Libraries.

If all Federal Courts can operate efficiently on Good Friday, why are County Courts unable to do so?

The Leon Board of County Commissioners should be concerned with the failure of County government to be available to its constituent/Taxpayers. The business of government is stalled when all government agencies are OPEN and when the County Government, with whom they interact, is CLOSED shut.

Please advise when this unfortunate County closure policy was inaugurated, who voted for it (names of County Commissioners pro and con), and whether this "holiday" was the subject of any public discussions in an open public meeting.

Your prompt assistance will be appreciated.

Sincerely,


EUGENE DANAHER

C Tallahassee Democrat



Bob Inzer

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT
LEON COUNTY

Post Office Box 726

Tallahassee, Florida 32302-0726

Telephone 850 577-4000 Fax 850 922-9228

4001

To: Parwez Alam, County Administrator

From: Bob Inzer, Clerk of the Court

Subject: 2003 Holiday Schedule

Date: August 30, 2002

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to next year's holiday calendar. As you know this is an issue that I have a strong opinion. For the most part the holiday calendar is set except with respect to how many if any of the religious holidays (Good Friday, Yom Kippur, etc.) will we be closed and how many, if any, personal holidays will we designate. With respect to these issues I can live with any calendar the Board establishes. What I do care about is that we should all have the same calendar. We are here to serve the public and the public will not understand or appreciate why the Clerk's office is closed and Leon County Offices are open or vice versa. For the most part they will not understand why the City and County have different holidays. My strong recommendation to you is that the City, County and all Constitutional Officers have the same holidays.

I recognize the Judiciary has already established their holiday. While this sounds inconsistent, I do not believe their decision is relevant in making our decision. The services they provide are through scheduled appointments and "walk-in" customers are the exception, not the rule. Citizens are therefore not aware of their holiday calendar. Much of the services we provide is unscheduled business wherein citizens show up unannounced and expect us to be open and ready to do business during regular business hours. Standardizing our schedules will minimize their confusion and frustration.

I look forward to working with you in adopting a unified calendar. Again, I appreciate the opportunity to participate and hope my comments are helpful. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

cc: Lillian Bennett, Assistant to County Administrator
Bert Hartsfield, Property Appraiser
Doris Maloy, Tax Collector
Ion Sancho, Supervisor of Elections
Larry Campbell, Sheriff
William Gary, Chief Judge